

What is claimed is:

1. A communication switch comprising a plurality of input channels and a plurality of output channels for switching data comprising a plurality of first groups of data transmitted in a predetermined first time order and arranged with respect to said input channels in a predetermined first input channel order and comprising a plurality of second groups of data transmitted in a predetermined second time order and arranged with respect to said input channels in a predetermined second input channel order, the first groups comprising less data than the second groups, said switch comprising in combination:

a first switch arranged to alter the predetermined first time order of the first groups of data into a predetermined third time order different from said first time order;

a second switch arranged to alter the predetermined second time order of the second groups of data into a predetermined fourth time order different from the second time order;

a third switch arranged to order said first groups of data with respect to said output channels in an output channel order different from said first input channel order; and

a fourth switch arranged to order said second groups of data with respect to said output channels in an output channel order different from said second input channel order.

2. A switch as claimed in claim 1, and further comprising:

a fifth switch arranged to alter the third time order of said first groups of data into a predetermined fifth time order different from said third order; and

a sixth switch arranged to alter the fourth time order of the second groups of  
5 data into a predetermined sixth time order different from said fourth time order.

3. A switch, as claimed in claim 1, wherein said frames comprise SONET  
frames.

4. A switch, as claimed in claim 3, wherein said first groups of data comprise  
VT 1.5s and said second groups of data comprise VT 2s.

5. A method of switching data received on a plurality of input channels to a  
plurality of output channels, said data comprising a plurality of first groups of data  
transmitted in a predetermined first time order and arranged with respect to said input  
channels in a predetermined first input channel order and comprising a plurality of second  
5 groups of data transmitted in a predetermined second time order and arranged with respect  
to said input channels in a predetermined second input channel order, the first groups  
comprising less data than the second groups, said method comprising in combination:

altering the predetermined first time order of the first groups of data into a  
predetermined third time order different from said first time order;

10 altering the predetermined second time order of the second groups of data  
into a predetermined fourth time order different from the second time order;

ordering said first groups of data with respect to said output channels in an  
output channel order different from said first input channel order; and

ordering said second groups of data with respect to said output channels in an  
15 output channel order different from said second input channel order.

6. A method, as claimed in claim 5, and further comprising:

altering the third time order of said first groups of data into a predetermined fifth time order different from said third order; and

- altering the fourth time order of the second groups of data into a
- 5 predetermined sixth time order different from said fourth time order.

7. A method, as claimed in claim 5, wherein said frames comprise SONET frames.

8. A method, as claimed in claim 7, wherein said first groups of data comprise VT1.5s and said second groups of data comprise VT2s.